

OURS IS AN AGE OF DISCONTENT.

"Excelsior!" the ceaseless cry of newspapers and corporations.

CHRISTIANITY—PROGRESS.

Synopsis of a Sermon by the Rector of a Flourishing Episcopal Church.

By Rev. James G. Lewis, D.D.

Rector of the Episcopal Church of the Reconciliation in East Thirty-first Street.

Text—Philippians, III, 13-14: Forgetting the things that are behind.

A duly subordinate regard for the attainments of his past and a grand passion for the realization of his life's greatest possibilities and reward were two noteworthy features in the character of St. Paul. When he beheld "forgetting the things that are behind" he was to a certain extent using a figure. He could recall the past, and did recall it as occasion required for the proclamation of the grace and love of God, for the instruction of his converts, for the defense of his apostleship, and for the admonition of the unfaithful.

In fact, the past was of so eventful a nature, "the things that were behind" were so inseparable in their influence from the present, that it would have been quite impossible wholly to forget them. We all know persons who live in an atmosphere of reminiscence, who live in and on the past, conditions, a large measure, if not altogether, of present duties and future possibilities.

St. Paul was not of that mould. He was reminiscent, but wisely and safely. He had a pronounced dissatisfaction with past attainment. Whatever zeal or "righteousness of the law" he had shown before his conversion, and whatever sacrifices he had made or labors wrought for Christ since that momentous event, were held as nothing. He could not rest in his past, however others might view it. Good or better, it was not sufficient. But mere discontent would have made him miserable; the negative view of the past would not have sufficed. He had a positive assurance of God, of eternity and of the things of eternity in which the eternal welfare of the soul was involved. Therefore he existed earnestly the best things. He desired to grow into the "stature of the fulness of Christ," reaching forth to the things that are before. I press toward the prize of my high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

This is an age of discontent with past and present attainment in science, social philosophy, art, and almost every sphere of practical life.

The publishers of successful newspapers declare from time to time their increased circulation, but they are not herewith content. Their circulations are not only wider sphere of influence, and still a wider. Railroad companies, civic corporations, business concerns and individuals are striving for them, they deem their respective interests, accomplishments and methods, an advance.

The principles of Christ stand for all true progress. They aim at uplifting the individual, and, through the individual, the society, city, State, nation—the world.

WANT DR. LLOYD'S CHURCH.

Members of the Church of the Strangers.

Favor the Purchase of This Sanctuary.

A meeting of the members of the Church of Strangers has been called for next Wednesday evening, to take action on the purchase of a new place of worship. An inquiry just made among the nearly five hundred members seems to indicate a preference for the purchase of the Central Congregational Church, in West Fifty-seventh street.

The Church of the Strangers is for strangers of all churches, to look to a permanent congregation for its maintenance. That permanent congregation has of necessity to be made up of persons who are churches that have been offered for sale to it give as the reason for a sale a desire to move uptown or to another place. The cause of the sale of the Central Congregational Church is the illness of the pastor, the Rev. Dr. W. Lloyd, who desires to take a rest for a year. His property will be sold, if possible, whether the Church of the Strangers purchases it or not, the congregation being unwilling to purchase the property. The price asked for it now is about \$85,000.

Among the Catholics.

The Advent services in Holy Innocent's Church are being followed in the following order: December 19, Rev. D. F. O'Connor, "Christ, the Lord of Nations." The 20th, Rev. John J. Smith, "The Advent of Christ." On December 21 a dramatic and musical performance will be given by the cathedral school children at the Lexington Opera House.

Tomorrow evening the congregation of St. Gabriel's Church (East Thirty-seventh street) will witness the solemn religious functions of the blessing of the new altars erected by the Right Reverend Bishop in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Archbishop Corrigan will officiate at Bishop Foley will sing canticles, and the organ, assisted by Rev. E. McKeena, Rev. Charles A. Colton, Rev. M. J. Farrell and Rev. J. J. McKeena, will play. The thought of erecting this magnificent altar, the first of its kind in this city, has been a long and arduous task. The altars will be dedicated on Sunday, the 19th inst. Although patients will be received from all sections of the country, the altars will be especially for the benefit of residents of Williamsburg.

Bishop McDonnell, of Brooklyn, will open a fair in the Church of the Most Holy Trinity, Montrose and Graham avenues, Brooklyn, on Sunday evening next for the benefit of the Dominican Sisters, who have charge of Catherine's Hospital and the parish school of the German Church in the upper section of Williamsburg. The proceeds of the fair will be used for the purchase of a new building on the grounds of the hospital, the 19th inst. Although patients will be received from all sections of the country, the altars will be especially for the benefit of residents of Williamsburg.

Rev. Gabriel A. Healy, the pastor of St. Bernard's Church, West Fourth street, will deliver a very interesting course of lectures to be delivered in Advent. This evening Rev. M. J. Lavelle will speak on "The Catholicity of the Church."

Among the Jews.

This morning in Temple Emanuel-EI Dr. Gottlieb will preach on "The Chief Article of Our Creed." A lecture will be delivered by Rev. Dr. E. N. Calisch, of Richmond, Va., on "Possibilities of the Jewish Economy." The lecture will be given in the vestry room of Temple Emanuel-EI, Fifth avenue, at 10 o'clock.

Rev. Stephen S. Wise will preach this morning at 10 o'clock in the synagogue on "Meeting the Day." The lecture will be given in the synagogue on December 28 and 29, under the auspices of the Young Men's Association of the synagogue. The lecture will be given in the vestry room of Temple Emanuel-EI, Fifth avenue, at 10 o'clock.

HIS JUBILEE OF AN OLD LANDMARK ON THE EAST SIDE.

St. Martin's Lutheran Church Celebrates Tomorrow the Fiftieth Anniversary of Its Organization.

A three days' jubilee, to-morrow, Monday and Wednesday, will celebrate the half century of the good work done by the German Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. Markus, on Sixth street, between First and Second avenues.

Here the old and the young of that famous church, around which, to the Germans of this city, so many tender memories cling, will meet in honor of its fiftieth birthday and make the event one never to be forgotten. Besides, St. Markus's present minister, the Rev. George C. T. Haas, the venerable Pastor Raegenor, who led the brave little congregation of years ago, through its trials and vicissitudes, to the success which it now enjoys, will tell of what has been accomplished and what still remains to be done. All the schools and societies which saw their beginning when he was at the church's helm will take part in the exercises, and, like pages in history, will speak for themselves of the work they have done.

The choir has been enlarged for this jubilee celebration, and Miss Emma Haas, the organist, has arranged an especially

beautiful musical programme. The church itself has not been forgotten. It has been renovated, and will be painted with green and other decorations for the occasion, and ministers from other cities will lend their presence to make it memorable.

To-morrow there will be two services, one in the morning and one at night; at the first Pastor Raegenor and Pastor A. Richter will make addresses in German, and in the evening the service will be conducted in English by Pastor John Haas and Pastor H. Hoffman, of Brooklyn. It will be a reunion for all those who have been confirmed at St. Markus's.

Monday evening will be devoted to the schools. Dr. Heilmann, of Brooklyn, will make an address in English, and Pastor C. Berkenman, of Mount Vernon, will speak in German. Wednesday will be given to the different societies, which Pastors E. Oswald and W. Locke will address in German.

The history of St. Markus's is an interesting one, and shows what can be accomplished by a congregation when led by a minister like Pastor Raegenor.

At the time of the founding of the church, the East Side there were many who realized the necessity of founding a German school in their district. They needed one, but careful consideration showed them that a church was what was most required, so they abandoned their idea of a school, and instead erected a place of worship on the north side of Sixth street, between First and Second avenues. It was in this church, owned by St. Matthew, that the congregation of St. Markus's was organized by Pastor A. H. M. Held. It paid a rent of \$50 for the first year. As it prospered, the rent was increased until it reached \$200 the third year. This was paid for a few years longer.

In 1875, owing to some misunderstanding, Mr. Held resigned and became pastor of St. Johannes's congregation on Christopher street, taking many of his old parishioners with him to his new church. Those who remained true to St. Markus's called Pastor Hermann Raegenor to fill his place. Pastor Raegenor, who had studied in Jena and Göttingen, was well qualified for his position, and during the years he was minister of St. Markus's the church attained its greatest glory. It had dark days at first, but his energy never failed. Soon after his call to St. Markus's, St. Markus's congregation demanded that the church should be bought, refusing to rent the building any longer. This was naturally a hard blow for the struggling little congregation, which was poor and had so recently been divided. But Pastor Raegenor knew his parishioners, however, and so well did he manage that in a short time he was able to purchase the church and clear it of all its debts. He also, in the course of time, bought property in the Lutheran Cemetery valued between \$30,000 and \$40,000.

When Pastor Raegenor resigned in 1882, owing to family troubles, Pastor Haas succeeded him. Pastor Haas is very popular in his congregation.

Connected with St. Markus's Church is a day school, of which Mr. Holthusen is the principal. He has held the position for twenty years, giving instruction to one hundred pupils each year. The Sunday-school, with about nine hundred pupils, is under the management of Mr. C. Anger, who has been its pastor since 1882. These schools have been founded by Pastor Held, but their success is largely due to the efforts of Pastor Raegenor.

A very important factor of the church is the "Frauen-Verein," which was organized in 1868. It has about fifty members, who are actively engaged in charitable work and interested in all improvements of the church. They presented it with a new organ in 1863. Mrs. Riehl is the president of the society. Mrs. M. Becker, the vice-president, Mrs. Haas is secretary and Mrs. Bader is treasurer.

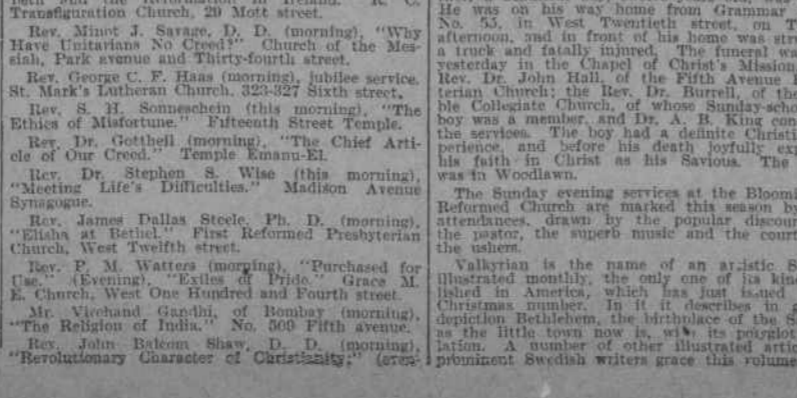
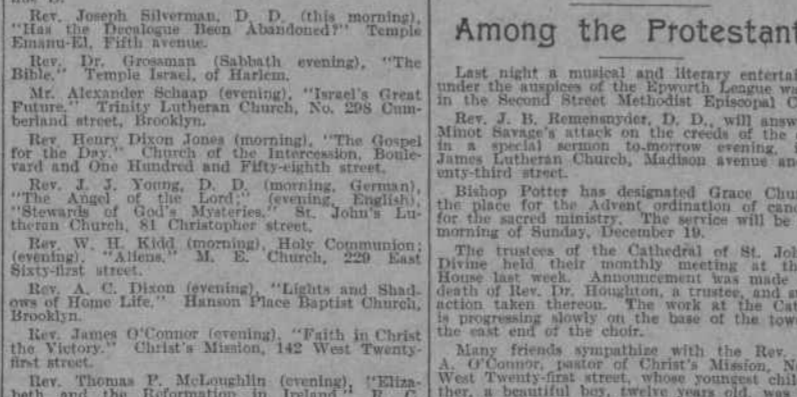
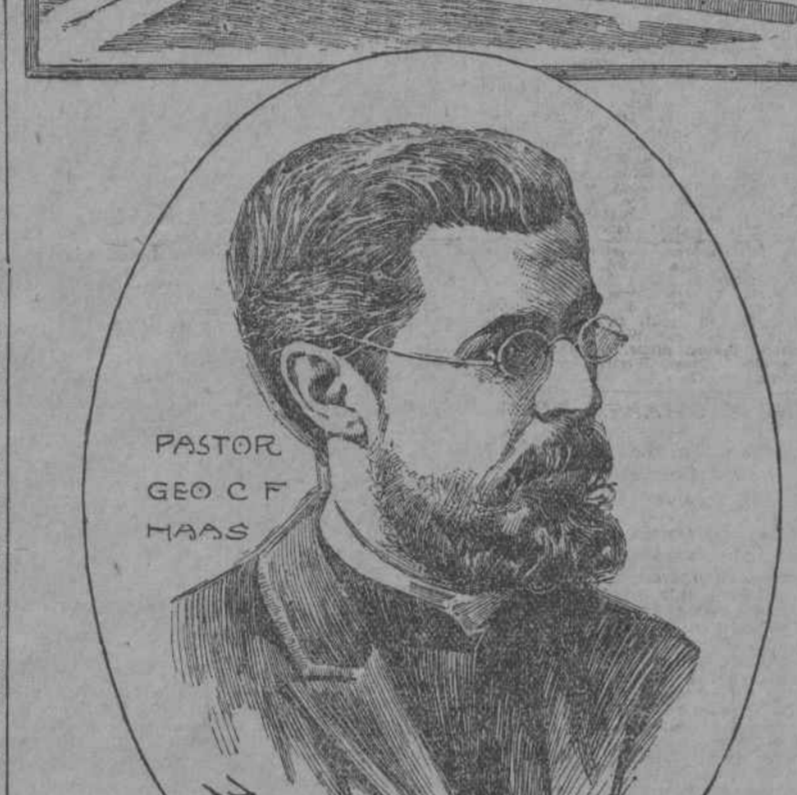
The "Missions-Verein," founded in 1858, has Mr. C. A. Leitch for its president. It has done and still does a great deal toward supporting other congregations in the city.

The Young Folks' League, "Luther Liga," a union consisting of the sons and daughters of the members, is of a religious character, but also gives entertainment and social parties. During the fifty years of the church's existence there have been over 20,000 baptisms, 6,500 marriages and 5,000 funerals, and over 4,000 people have been confirmed in it.

THANKED BY KING OSCAR.

Dr. Gustaf Stolpe, father of Rev. Maurs Stolpe, the popular pastor of the Swedish Lutheran Gustavus Adolphus Church in East Twenty-third street, has just received an autograph letter of thanks from King Oscar of Sweden acknowledging the great merit of a grand orchestral composition specially prepared for the recent royal jubilee.

Dr. Stolpe has recently moved to New York from Rock Island, Ill., the seat of the Swedish Augustana Seminary. He will be in the faculty of a large conservatory here, and also have a private concert given with his son at 217 East Forty-ninth street. The professor has an international reputation in the musical world.



BOOTHS ARE TO BE FRIENDS AGAIN.

Commander Ballington and the General to Meet Next Month.

WONT TALK OF THE ARMY.

Their Conference Does Not Mean That the Contending Forces Are to Be United.

Commander Ballington Booth has received a request from his father to meet him on his arrival here from England next month.

In speaking of the matter yesterday, the Commander said that the proposed meeting with the General was not to be interpreted as meaning that there is a possibility of the country being recently associated with the organization of the other social schemes of Commissioner Tucker, carrying the implication that I approve of them.

"I cannot too strenuously appeal to the press and public at large to place me right in this matter. Not only am I not connected with any of these schemes, but all will admit that it is my right to protect against Commissioner and Mrs. Booth-Tucker, allowing themselves to pass as 'Commander and Mrs. Booth'."

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"To give confidence to this rumor of amalgamation, my name has in all parts of the country been recently associated with the organization of the other social schemes of Commissioner Tucker, carrying the implication that I approve of them.

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COL. HAY AT WINDSOR.

Ambassador Again Invited to Dine with the Queen and to Sleep at the Castle.

London, Dec. 10.—The United States Ambassador, Colonel John Hay, and Mrs. Hay will dine with Queen Victoria at Windsor this evening and will sleep to-night at the castle.

As a general rule the personal courtesies of the Queen to the diplomatic corps are restricted to one "dine-and-sleep" invitation in the year for the Ambassadors and Ambassadors, while, mere Ministers Plenipotentiary are seldom if ever "commanded" to Windsor unless they happen to be in attendance on the sovereign or one of the members of the reigning family of the country which they represent at the Court of St. James. On that account the invitation addressed to Minister Phelps and Mrs. Phelps just before they left England to dine and sleep at Windsor was regarded as a very unusual attention and created a good deal of comment. Ambassadors have been already several times "commanded" to dine and sleep at Windsor since he presented his letters of credence to Her Majesty last Spring, and that he should once again be the aged sovereign's guest at Windsor Castle shows not only that he occupies a high place in the diplomatic corps, but also that she is anxious to show herself particularly affable and friendly to the United States.

Overcoats,

Suits,

For

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WE have

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suits that sold at the beginning

of the season for \$25, \$22,

\$20 and \$18.—Just a few of a

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Homespun, Worsteds, Checks

and Mixtures.

ALL NOW \$12.65

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OVERCOATS made of

Kersey, Rough-faced Diag-

onal and Beaver—silk and

Worsted lined—the odds and

ends of large lots; sold begin-

ning of season at \$22, \$20 and

\$18. Few of each kind left.

ALL NOW \$12.35

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DOWNTOWN: East 125th St.,

S. W. Cor. 158 to 164.

Fulton & Nassau.

Open evenings.

UP-TOWN: East 125th St.,

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Pianos and Organs:

Daily and Sunday, 15c. per line. By the week (7 consecutive insertions) \$1. per line. By the month (30 consecutive insertions) \$4. per line.

Pianos Clearing Sale.

\$50—4 square for beginners; \$2 monthly. \$100—5 square; good piano; \$4 monthly. \$150—6 square; grand piano; \$6 monthly. \$200—7 square; grand piano; \$8 monthly. \$300—8 square; grand piano; \$10 monthly. \$400—9 square; grand piano; \$12 monthly. \$500—10 square; grand piano; \$15 monthly. \$600—11 square; grand piano; \$18 monthly. \$700—12 square; grand piano; \$20 monthly. \$800—13 square; grand piano; \$22 monthly. \$900—14 square; grand piano; \$24 monthly. \$1000—15 square; grand piano; \$26 monthly. \$1100—16 square; grand piano; \$28 monthly. \$1200—17 square; grand piano; \$30 monthly. \$1300—18 square; grand piano; \$32 monthly. \$1400—19 square; grand piano; \$34 monthly. \$1500—20 square; grand piano; \$36 monthly. \$1600—21 square; grand piano; \$38 monthly. \$1700—22 square; grand piano; \$40 monthly. \$1800—23 square; grand piano; \$42 monthly. \$1900—24 square; grand piano; \$44 monthly. \$2000—25 square; grand piano; \$46 monthly. \$2100—26 square; grand piano; \$48 monthly. \$2200—27 square; grand piano; \$50 monthly. \$2300—28 square; grand piano; \$52 monthly. \$2400—29 square; grand piano; \$54 monthly. \$2500—30 square; grand piano; \$56 monthly. \$2600—31 square; grand piano; \$58 monthly. \$2700—32 square; grand piano; \$60 monthly. \$2800—33 square; grand piano; \$62 monthly. \$2900—34 square; grand piano; \$64 monthly. \$3000—35 square; grand piano; \$66 monthly. \$3100—36 square; grand piano; \$68 monthly. \$3200—37 square; grand piano; \$70 monthly. \$3300—38 square; grand piano; \$72 monthly. \$3400—39 square; grand piano; \$74 monthly. \$3500—40 square; grand piano; \$76 monthly. \$3600—41 square; grand piano; \$78 monthly. \$3700—42 square; grand piano; \$80 monthly. \$3800—43 square; grand piano; \$82 monthly. \$3900—44 square; grand piano; \$84 monthly. \$4000—45 square; grand piano; \$86 monthly. \$4100—46 square; grand piano; \$88 monthly. \$4200—47 square; grand piano; \$90 monthly. \$4300—48 square; grand piano; \$92 monthly. \$4400—49 square; grand piano; \$94 monthly. \$4500—50 square; grand piano; \$96 monthly. \$4600—51 square; grand piano; \$98 monthly. \$4700—52 square; grand piano; \$100 monthly. \$4800—53 square; grand piano; \$102 monthly. \$4900—54 square; grand piano; \$104 monthly. \$5000—55 square; grand piano; \$106 monthly. \$5100—56 square; grand piano; \$108 monthly. \$5200—57 square; grand piano; \$110 monthly. \$5300—58 square; grand piano; \$112 monthly. \$5400—59 square; grand piano; \$114 monthly. \$5500—60 square; grand piano; \$116 monthly. \$560